

A weekly publication for Gallaudet University staff and faculty

Australian begins as Distinguished Visiting Scholar

Desmond J. Power, Gallaudet's 1987 Distinguished Visiting Scholar, arrived in Washington from subtropical Brisbane, Australia, shortly before the blizzard of '87 struck in January.

A rather frigid reception, some might say, for someone who is director of the Centre for Human Development Studies and principal lecturer in psychology and special education at the Mt. Gravatt campus of the Brisbane College of Advanced Education in Queensland.

But Dr. Power is here to stay—until Sept. 30, that is—working on a research project and giving seminars. His primary project while here is analyzing data that has been collected in Australia on developing communication skills among deaf children in the classroom. The research, which is an extension of work started by others in 1979, looks at different ways that teachers talk to their students and the influences those different styles have on deaf children's responses.

"We know from research that certain kinds of talk are better than others," said Dr. Power. For example, questions of any kind—especially if there are too many—tend to suppress children's responses, he said. "'Closed' questions—Do you like ice cream?' or 'When did you go out?'—require only single word answers: 'Yes' or 'Yesterday.'"



Dr. Desmond J. Power

But, said Dr. Power, "personal contributions on the part of the teacher, such as genuine statements of opinion or belief, tend to draw kids out." Another kind of teacher talk that provides "conversational oil," he said, is what Carl Rogers called phatics. These are words or murmurs of encouragement such as, "Mmmm," "Yes," or "Fine."

Dr. Power is comparing differences in

Dr. Power is comparing differences in speech styles among Australian oral teachers, total communication teachers and Cued Speech teachers. Signed English is taught in Australian schools for deaf students, not Australian Sign Language.

Ceremony and debate mark induction of SEHS students into honor society

"You're one of a vanishing breed,"
Deborah Walsh of the American
Federation of Teachers (AFT) told more
than 40 undergraduate and graduate
students in Gallaudet's School of
Education and Human Resources
(SEHS) after they were inducted into Pi
Ro, the Gallaudet chapter of Kappa
Delta Pi last month. Kappa Delta Pi is
a national education honor society.

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Dr. Walsh and William Coviello of the Maryland State Department of Education participated in a debate on "Competency Testing for Teachers" that followed the induction ceremony.

Dr. Walsh told the inductees that half of all those who enter teaching leave after 5 years, and 80 percent have left after 10 years. "Less than 5 percent (of college students) go into teaching today," she said.

Citing poor pay, low public esteem, difficult working conditions, bureaucratic interference and poorly trained administrators as factors in the teacher shortage, Dr. Walsh said, "People are just not selecting teaching as a profession."

The AFT, she said, is working to improve conditions, including developing the concept of a rigorous national teacher certification exam for teachers—like bar exams for lawyers and board certification for doctors—and one- to three-year internships. By doing this, she said, "we can claim that the people in our profession are the best and the brightest,"

Dr. Walsh said that the AFT opposes the current development of state competency testing, because the level of sophistication varies from state to state. She noted that teachers in one state were required to take a competency test for reading that was on a 6th grade level; teachers objected because they felt demeaned.

Coviello agreed with many of Dr. Walsh's remarks, saying, "We're asking people whom we treat as second-class citizens to make first-class citizens out of our children. I don't think we can continue to do this."

He described Maryland's current competency testing for teachers, and he said that those entering the teaching profession in the next few years "will be the ones who have to pay the price" by taking such state exams, until an alternative is developed.

"We would love to see something happen nationally," he said. "I hope that developing better quality teachers—by a national test or whatever means—will create higher level credentials and therefore more money for teachers."

The Gallaudet students who became members of Kappa Delta Pi prior to the debate joined approximately 50,000 members in 400 university, college and alumni chapters. Founded in 1911, the society was organized to recognize excellence in education, and elects as members those who exhibit scholarship, high personal standards and promise in teaching and allied professions.

Chinese student at Gallaudet meets, marries man from her own hometown

Once upon a time, a young man and a young woman met in Washington, D.C., discovered that they were from the same city in China, realized that they had both had the same private art teacher in their homeland, and learned that their fathers had been schoolmates.

Four months later, they became engaged, and two months after that, on Feb. 28, Liying Chen and Daniel Nie were married.

When Chen came to Gallaudet from Shanghai last fall to begin her studies in graphic arts, she decided she wanted to learn more about living as a student in America. She went to the Chinese embassy and talked to a friend of her father, who put her in touch with Nie. Nie, who is pursuing a master's degree in art history at American University, has lived in the United States for six years.

The two began dating, and they dis-

covered many things in common besides growing up in Shanghai, which has a population of 8,100,000. Their mutual appreciation of art took them on frequent trips to museums, and each spoke of a teacher in Shanghai who had given them individual instruction in Chinese painting. It was the same teacher. Their fathers studied at the same law school in China. Family relationships and experiences in China had been similar.

Chen, 24, who works as a marketing assistant at Gallaudet University Press between classes and at the Merrill Learning Center on weekends, is hard of hearing. She has been teaching some sign language to Nie, who is hearing. He sometimes accompanies her to her job at the Learning Center, where he watches instructional videotapes on sign language. But, said Chen, "We speak Chinese when we're together."



Liying Chen cuts a cake from co-workers at Gallaudet Press the day before her wedding.

8th awards event slated March 21

"Celebrating University and Community Togetherness" is the theme of the 8th Annual Awards and Recognition Program, sponsored by the Gallaudet Community Relations Council, to be held Saturday, March 21 at 5 p.m. in the MSSD Auditorium.

Frank Herzog of WJLA-TV, Channel 7, will serve as emcee. Also featured will be the D.C. Youth Chorale, elementary/junior division.

The awards program recognizes individuals and groups for significant contributions in improving the quality of life for area residents.

Donations are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For tickets, call LaVarne Hines, x5263; Al Couthen, x5167; Sharon Long, x5333; or stop at the Office of Administrative and Community Services, College Hall, Room 4.

Among Ourselves

Deborah Sonnenstrahl, associate professor of art history and museum studies, visited Dallas recently to present "Why Art Museums? Are They Fun or Boring?" The presentation was cosponsored by the Gallaudet University Regional Center at Eastfield and the Cultural Society of the Deaf in Dallas. She also recently presented "Outreach to Deaf Audiences" as part of a workshop entitled "Museum Outreach: Community and School Relations" at the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Museum Programs.

30 to air AIDS issues

Two special editions of "Catch the Spirit," both on the issue of AIDS, will be shown on Gallaudet TV Channel 30 during the weeks of March 16-20 and

"Catch the Spirit" is a national television program series sponsored by the United Methodist Church.

Featured in the program will be C. Everett Koop, Surgeon General of the United States, and Ryan White, a 15-year-old hemophiliac who contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion.

"Catch the Spirit" is aired on Channel 30 at 8:30 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.

Women's group plans two-day cultural event

The 5th Annual Sisterfire Festival will be held June 27 and 28 in Upper Marlboro, Md., sponsored by Roadwork, Inc., a Washington, D.C.-based multi-ethnic women's cultural

Sisterfire, a two-day open air festival, spotlights deaf and hearing women dancers, actresses, storytellers, comediennes, poets, clowns, jugglers, martial artists, craftswomen and vendors.

This year, performances at one of the four stages will be produced by deaf and hearing women entirely for deaf women artists.

Roadwork is seeking volunteers to organize sign language interpreting for the festival, work on the stage for deaf artists or interpret at the festival.

For more information, call Lynne Gelzer, x3041 or 234-9308 (V/TDD).



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Dunkin' Donkey star Tom McMillen (D-Md., #54) goes for a rebound during the March 3 Congressional game, assisted by Sam Nunn (D-Ga., #30) and Sander Levin (D-Mich., #21).

1,200 cheer Donkeys and Elephants

An enthusiastic bipartisan crowd of 1,200 cheered the Republican Fighting Elephants and the Democratic Dunkin' Donkeys March 3 during the first Congressional Charity Basketball Game at the Field House.

The Donkeys, led by Rep. Tom McMillen (D-Md.), a former star of the Washington Bullets, beat the Elephants 53-47 in what the Washington Post described as "hard-nosed, no-nonsense play that gave the game the appearance that an election was in process.'

"It's not often that something for such a good cause is also this much fun!" said Rep. David Bonior (D-Mich.), a member of Gallaudet's Board of Trustees who played for the Donkeys.

The game, sponsored by the Grocery Manufacturers of America (GMA), raised \$5,000 for Gallaudet programs. President Jerry C. Lee expressed the appreciation of the Gallaudet community to the members of the congressional teams, and to the GMA and its president, George Koch.

Announcements

There will be no On the Green March 16 because of the spring break. The next issue will be published March 23. The deadline for articles or ads for On the Green is Friday, 10 days before the date of publication on Monday. Send information to OTG, Chapel Hall.

An exhibition of art work by KDES students will be held in the Merrill Learning Center's exhibition area from March 12 to 27. Included will be photographs, paintings and videotapes. The campus community is invited to attend the show's opening on March 12 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Virginia Cowgell, assistant to the dean of Student Affairs, will present "Issues in Victim Justice for Deaf People" March 12 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Merrill Learning Center, Room LN-11, and from 3:30 to 5:30 at the University of Maryland, Lefrak Hall, Room 216.

Instructional videotapes on Gallaudet's telephone system are available from the Telecommunications Department by calling Debbie Wheeler, telecommunications manager, x5777. A Northern Telecom representative explains in the videotape how to use the telephone

A workshop on AIDS is being cosponsored on March 28 by Gallaudet's

Adult Community Education (ACE) and Wesley Theological Seminary. The workshop, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., will be held at the seminary's Kresge Academic Center, Elderice Hall, 4500 Massachusetts Ave. NW. The fee is \$10. To register, call ACE, x5044 (V/TDD).

Dr. Barton Ingraham of the University of Maryland Institute of Criminal Justice/ Criminology, will speak on "Current Law: Current Issues of Crime Control' March 26 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Merrill Learning Center, Room LN-11. For more information, call Daphne Gallmon in the National Academy, x5095.

The Prince George's Publick Playhouse will present "My Three Angels" March 20, 21, 27 and 28 at 8 p.m. The March 21 and 27 performances will be sign interpreted. An infrared listening system will be available for all performances. Discount prices will be available for groups of 10 or more. For reservations, call 277-1711 (V/TDD).

A group of deaf and hearing impaired entertainers will perform "Signs of Jazz" March 21 and 28 at 10:30 a.m. at the Gaithersburg Regional Library, 18330 Montgomery Village Avenue. A "Signs of Jazz" workshop will be held March 28 at 10:30 at the same location. For more information, call the Special Needs Library, 493-2554 (TDD) or 493-2555 (V).

Basketball teams boast triumphant year-end records

The men's basketball team made history on Feb. 28, ending its best season with a 74-68 victory over St. Mary's College, Md. The team's final 16-10 record gave Gallaudet a .615 winning percentage—its highest everand marked the most victories by a Gallaudet basketball team since the program began in 1904.

The Bison closed the season by taking third place at the 2nd Annual Capital Classic Tournament, with senior forward David Hamilton leading the way against Philadelphia Pharmacy in the opening game and against St. Mary's in the consolation game.

Hamilton, who is graduating in May, scored more than 1,000 points for Gallaudet during his two-year career here. Like Hamilton, head coach Mike Rosenbaum was participating in his last game. After seven seasons as Gallaudet's basketball coach, Rosenbaum announced his resignation.

"I am extremely happy with our accomplishments over the last two seasons," Rosenbaum said. "The schedule and the program are now on a level with the top programs in the nation."

The women's basketball team closed out the season by taking second place in the Chesapeake Women's Athletic Conference (CWAC) Tournament Feb. 27-28.

Senior center Angela Kuehn scored a personal high of 34 points in the tournament's first match against Shenandoah.

The team's final 15-10 record gave head coach Kitty Baldridge a 10-year coaching record of 138-98.

Jobs Available

openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

INSTRUCTOR/BILINGUAL SPECIALIST:

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE I: Center for Studies in Education and Human Development

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK: Accounting

RECEPTIONIST/MAIL ORDER CLERK: Gallaudet University Press

DEAN: School of Management

FACULTY POSITION: Department of Educational Technology

FACULTY POSITION: Department of Physical Education and Recreation

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Holiday Spa membership, bargain price; 12 Oneida Omni 5-piece flatware settings, never used, \$200 (\$320 value). Call Audrey, x5375 or 345-4236 (TDD). FOR SALE: Living, dining room furn., desk, chair and office equipment, attractive prices. Call 345-8612 (TDD).

FREE: 300-350 glass panes, 16 x 20 in., suitable for greenhouse. Write Leon Auerbach, 7112 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782, or call 277-3142 (TDD).

FOR SALE: Commodore-64 computer, w/2 joysticks, data cassette and educational/game cartridges (\$250 value), \$150. Call Chun, x3115 days or 459-1192 eves.

FOR SALE: Round-trip plane ticket to Las Vegas, leaving D.C. March 26 and returning March 29. Call (301) 522-4381 (TDD).